

NHTSA and FHWA, DOT

§ 1240.15

would comply with all the requirements of §1340 of chapter III of this title. Any notice indicating non-compliance will be accompanied by a detailed statement of the reasons.

(5) A State that submits a description of its proposed survey methodology under paragraph (b)(3) of this section continues to be required to submit all information required under paragraph (b)(1) of this section, after the State conducts its survey, for review under paragraph (b)(2) of this section.

(c) *Submission of Certification—calendar year 1998 surveys.* (1) A survey conducted by a State in calendar year 1998 shall be deemed to comply with the requirements of §1340 of chapter III of this title, if—

(i) The survey's design was approved by the agency, in writing, on or after June 29, 1992, for the purposes of the grant program authorized under 23 U.S.C. 153;

(ii) The survey design has remained unchanged since the survey was approved (except to the extent that the requirements of paragraph (c)(1)(iii) constitute a change); and

(iii) The survey samples all passenger motor vehicles, measures seat belt use by all front seat outboard occupants in the sampled vehicles, and counts seat belt use only within the calendar year for which the seat belt use rate is reported.

(2) A State that meets the requirements of paragraph (c)(1) of this section shall submit a certification signed by the Governor's Representative for Highway Safety, in the form prescribed in Appendix C of this part, accompanied by the information required under paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(3) Written notice of acceptance or rejection of a certification will be sent to the Governor's Representative for Highway Safety within 30 days of receipt of the information required under paragraph (c)(2) of this section. Any notice of rejection will be accompanied by a detailed statement of the reasons for rejection.

(d) *Determination of State seat belt use rate.* The seat belt use rate submitted by the State for a calendar year will be accepted as the State seat belt use rate for that calendar year if—

(1) It was determined under a survey whose survey report was approved under paragraph (b)(2) of this section; or

(2) For calendar year 1998 only, the State satisfies the requirements of paragraphs (c)(1) and (c)(2) of this section, and its certification is accepted under paragraph (c)(3) of this section.

§ 1240.13 Determination of national average seat belt use rate.

The national average seat belt use rate for a calendar year shall be the sum of the individual State seat belt use rates for all the States, after weighting each individual State seat belt use rate in accordance with the procedures of Appendix D of this part.

§ 1240.14 Determination of Federal medical savings and notification of proposed allocations.

On or about September 1, 1998, and each September 1 thereafter, NHTSA will—

(a) Calculate, in accordance with the procedures in Appendix E of this part, the Federal medical savings and each State's share of those savings, due to the amount by which the State seat belt use rate for the previous calendar year—

(1) Exceeds the national average seat belt use rate for that calendar year, for each State described in §1240.10(a)(1) of this part; or

(2) Exceeds the State's base seat belt use rate, for each State described in §1240.10(a)(2) of this part; and

(b) Notify the States described in §1240.10(c) of this part of their proposed allocations, which shall be equal to the amount of the Federal medical savings calculated under paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2) of this section, as applicable, reduced proportionately across all States if the allocations would exceed the total amount authorized for allocation during the fiscal year.

§ 1240.15 Allocations.

(a) Funds allocated under this part shall be available for any projects eligible for assistance under title 23, United States Code.

(b) Not later than 25 days after notification under §1240.14(b) of this part, the Governor's Representative for

Highway Safety and the Secretary of the State's Department of Transportation for each State that receives notification shall jointly identify, in writing to the appropriate NHTSA Regional Administrator and FHWA Division Administrator, the amounts of the State's proposed allocations that will be used in highway safety programs and in Federal-aid highway programs.

(c) On or about October 1, 1998, and each October 1 thereafter, the funds to which a State is entitled under this part will be allocated in the proportions identified by the State under paragraph (b) of this section, reduced proportionately across all States if the allocations would, in the aggregate, exceed total obligation limitations applicable to 23 U.S.C. 157.

(d) Thereafter, each State shall identify specific NHTSA program areas and FHWA projects for which the allocated funds will be used.

APPENDIX A TO PART 1240—ADJUSTMENT PROCEDURES FOR STATE-SUBMITTED INFORMATION (CALENDAR YEARS 1996 AND 1997)

A. In States where State-submitted information on seat belt use rates does not include data for Front outboard occupants in passenger motor vehicles (FOPV), an adjustment will be made based on the national ratio of seat belt use rates for FOPV to the seat belt use rate for the group of occupants and vehicles that were included in the State-submitted information. The national seat belt use rates will be derived from the most recent National Occupant Protection Use Survey (NOPUS). For each affected State, the adjustment will be made by dividing the NOPUS seat belt use rate for FOPV by the NOPUS seat belt use rate for the surveyed group, or the seat belt use rate for the closest available group to the surveyed group. The NOPUS seat belt use rate for FOPV will be derived for each affected State by weighting the NOPUS seat belt use rates for passenger cars and for passenger motor vehicles that are not passenger cars (hereafter LTVs) by the relative number of registrations of passenger cars and LTVs in each State. This method will produce a factor which will be multiplied by the State's survey-based seat belt use rate to produce an adjusted seat belt use rate reflecting the required vehicle and occupant population.

B. The process may be expressed mathematically as follows:

$$U_a = U_s((N_{pc} * R_{pc} + N_{ltv} * R_{ltv}) / N_s)$$

Where:

U_a = the adjusted State seat belt use rate
 U_s = the State-submitted seat belt use rate
 N_{pc} = the national front outboard passenger car seat belt use rate from NOPUS
 N_{ltv} = the national front outboard LTV seat belt use rate from NOPUS
 R_{pc} = the portion of State passenger motor vehicle registrations that are passenger cars
 R_{ltv} = the portion of State passenger motor vehicle registrations that are LTVs
 N_s = the national seat belt use rate for the State-surveyed vehicle and occupant population (or closest available group from NOPUS)

APPENDIX B TO PART 1240—PROCEDURES FOR MISSING OR INADEQUATE STATE-SUBMITTED INFORMATION (CALENDAR YEARS 1996 AND 1997)

A. If State-submitted seat belt use rate information is unavailable or inadequate for both calendar years 1996 and 1997, State seat belt use rates for calendar year 1996 and 1997 will be estimated based on seat belt use rates of fatally-injured occupants. Data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) will be translated into estimated observed seat belt use rates using an algorithm that relates historical belt use by fatally-injured occupants to observed use.¹

B. The algorithm is as follows:

$$u = (-.221794 + \sqrt{.049193 + .410769F}) / .456410$$

Where:

u = the estimated observed seat belt use

F = the seat belt use in potentially fatal crashes

In the above formula, F is calculated as follows:

$$F = (f / (1 - e)) / ((f / (1 - e)) + 1 - f)$$

Where:

F = the seat belt use in potentially fatal crashes

e = State-specific weighted average effectiveness of seat belts in passenger cars and passenger motor vehicles that are not passenger cars

f = State-specific seat belt use rate of fatally-injured occupants of passenger vehicles

C. If State-submitted seat belt use rate information is available for either calendar year 1996 or 1997, but not both, a State seat belt use rate for the year for which information is missing will be estimated by calculating the percent change in the FARS-based observed seat belt use rate (derived from the above algorithm) between the two years.

¹Blincoe, L.J. *Estimating the Benefits of Increased Safety Belt Use*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Transportation, NHTSA, DOT HS 808 133, June, 1994.